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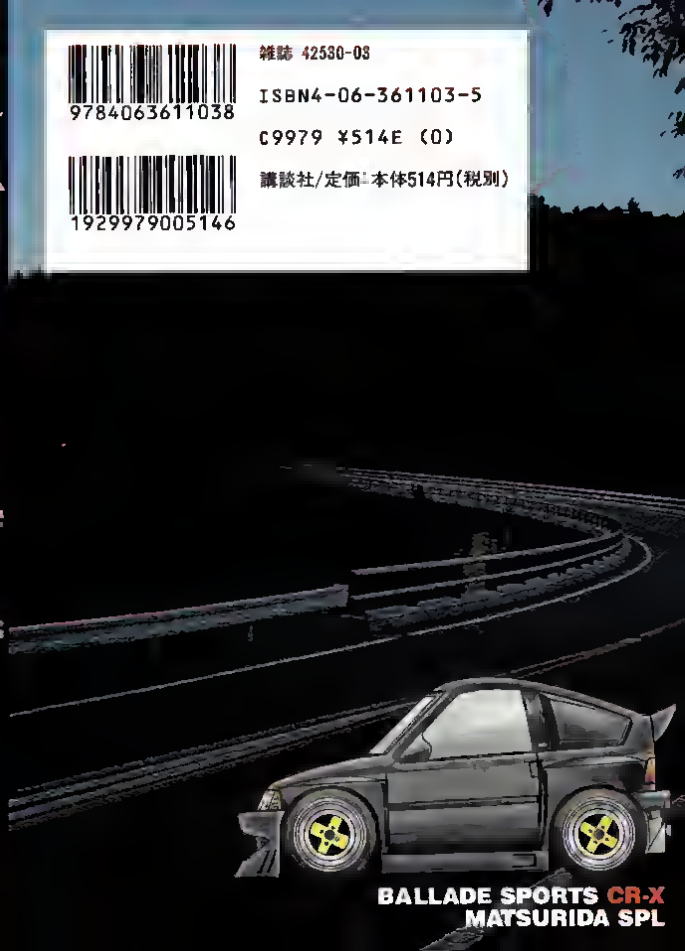

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KING

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KING

1

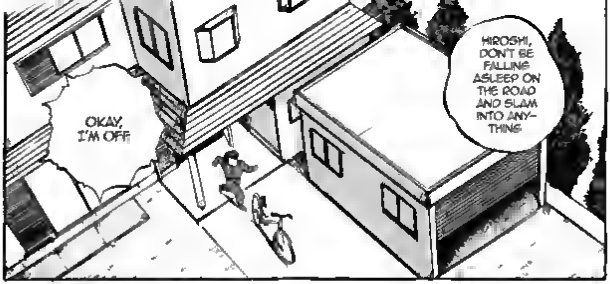
by Keichiro Shinmura

EVEN AFTER TURNING 23, ONCE YOU ACQUIRE THE TASTE OF TOUGE...
BUON
REGARDLESS OF WHETHER I'M A TEACHER OR NOT...
GU!
I CAN'T GIVE UP RACING!!!

序章
KING 1

AH, SHIT! DRIVING AROUND THE WHOLE NIGHT, NOW IT'S ALREADY MORNING!
ボボボボ
ピンポーン
YOU LIVE NEXT DOOR!
I'M LATE, I'M LATE THIS IS NO JOKE—
HE OFTEN REALIZES SOMETHING PRIOR TO GETTING INTO HIS VEHICLE
KEISUKE MATSUIDA, 23 YEARS OLD MALE. OCCUPATION TEACHER HIS JOB TAKES SECOND PLACE, FOR HE IS A MAN WHO LIVES TO DRIVE HIS CR-X.
SO COOL.
SO...
HM?

I'M ALWAYS EATING INSTANT RAMEN, SO TODAY I'LL HAVE SOME INSTANT UDON
チッ チッ チッ チッ
ヘ
30 MORE SECONDS...
HE CALLS IT "BECOMING ONE" WITH HIS VEHICLE
EVERY MORNING, HE EATS HIS BREAK-FAST IN THE BUCKET-SEAT OF HIS CAR...
HE SPENDS HIS FIRST BREAK IN THIS REFINED MANNER
HUH?
ずるずる


HIROSHI, DON'T BE FALLING ASLEEP ON THE ROAD AND SLAM INTO ANY-THING
OKAY, I'M OFF

TESTS END TODAY

HEY SIS, HAVE YOU BEEN MESSING WITH THE CAR ALL MORN-ING?
ARE YOU GOING TO THE TOWNS AGAIN TONIGHT?
UEH!!!
NO

SORRY, SORRY, IT'S NOT LIKE I WAS AIMING...
DON'T KICK DOWN THERE FOR REAL!!! MEN HAVE PAIN THAT ONLY MEN GO THROUGH!!!
HIROSHI, FORGIVE YOUR CUTE BIG SISTER
RIDING AROUND YOUR CAR EVERY SATURDAY NIGHT, AND WHENEVER YOU HAVE EXTRA TIME, YOU JUST KEEP STARING AT IT...
CUTE SISTER? DON'T YOU MEAN CUTE LITTLE BROTHER?
Why do I have to be the first to blame?
OH? IS THAT SO?
WHY WOULD I FORGIVE YOU?

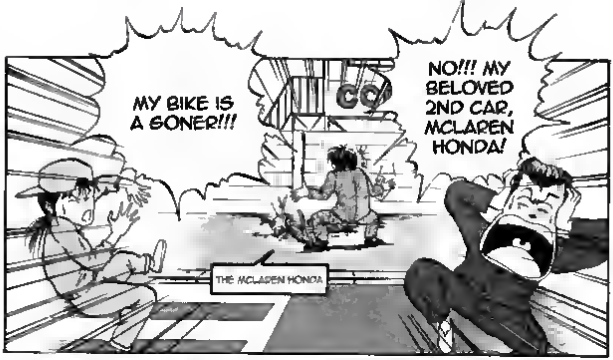
I ALSO THINK GRABBING A MONKEY WRENCH IS A GOOD LIFE
I THINK SO TOO.
IS THAT THE KIND OF LIFE FOR A WOMAN?
OKAY THE OIL IS TAKEN CARE OF NOW
HEY HIROSHI!!! WHY ARE YOU IN SUCH A HURRY ALL OF A SUDDEN?
I'M GOING SEE BYE!!!
I'LL GIVE YOU A RIDE TO SCHOOL OKAY?

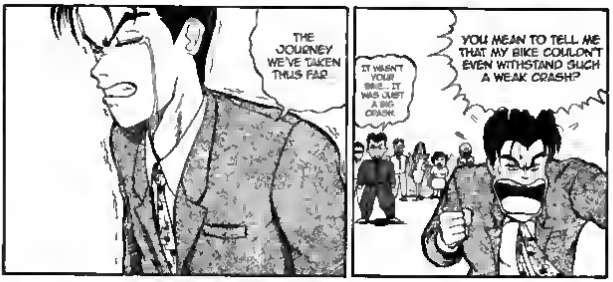
YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE SO RESERVED.
SOLEX 44'S SETTING IS GOOD.
OH GOD. PLEASE DON'T TAKE AWAY MY PRECIOUS ADOLES-CENCE.
PERFECT.
THE RESPONSE IS GREAT, TOO.

OH, A WIFE
HE CLAIMS THAT IN RACING, BOTH PHYSICAL STRENGTH AND ENDURANCE ARE NECESSARY
KEISUKE MATSURIDA COMMUTES WITH A GRANNY BIKE
HE'S JUST TRYING TO SAVE GAS MONEY
BUT IN REALITY
THIS IS GREAT
MMMM. WHAT A NICE SCENT
YOU GUYS ALREADY DID IT?
WE DID IT ON THE FIRST NIGHT

ACK!
SHI-
GRAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAH!!!

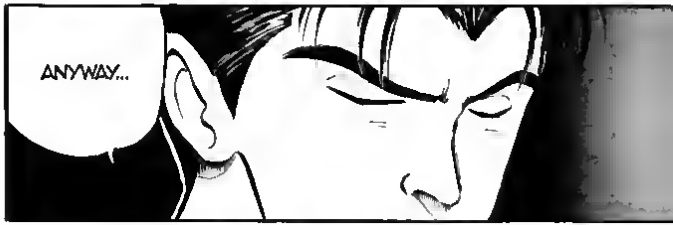
ドン!!
I'M OKAY
ARE YOU OKAY?
WELL NOW, OFF TO SCHOOL.
IF I'M GOING TO TRIP AND FALL, I MIGHT AS WELL DO IT RATHER ROUGH FOR THE READERS TO ENJOY.


MY BIKE IS A GONER!!!
NO!!! MY BELOVED 2ND CAR, MCLAREN HONDA!
THE MCLAREN HONDA

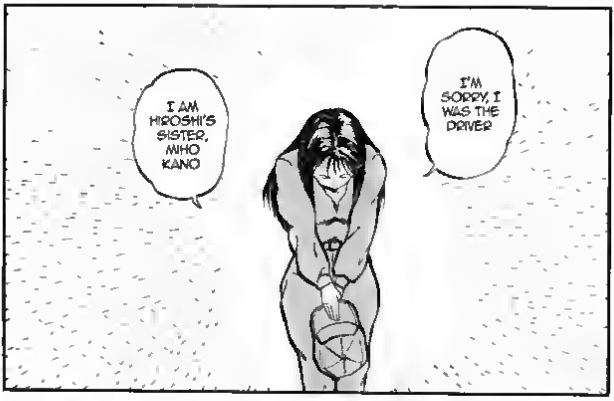

THE JOURNEY WE'VE TAKEN THUS FAR...
IT WASN'T YOUR BIKE... IT WAS JUST A BIG CRASH.
YOU MEAN TO TELL ME THAT MY BIKE COULDN'T EVEN WITHSTAND SUCH A WEAK CRASH?

HEY, THIS WAS THE GRANNY BIKE THAT WAS ON SALE DOWN ON 4TH.
WOW
WOW, ALL THAT'S LEFT IS A 500 YEN HONDA STICKER
EACH AND EVERY PART OF THAT BICYCLE WAS WELDED WITH MY BLOOD AND TEARS

I STOLE IT AT THE TRAIN STATION.
Vroom
WHERE'S IT FROM THEN?
It was just a normal bike
IT WASN'T THE GRANNY BIKE THAT WAS ON SALE


ANYWAY...

UM...
HM?
WHAT KIND OF DRIVING IS THAT!? MORE IMPORTANTLY, WHY ARE YOU DRIVING? IT'S ILLEGAL FOR YOU TO POSSESS A LICENCE AT OUR SCHOOL!


I AM HIROSHI'S SISTER, MIHO KANO
I'M SORRY, I WAS THE DRIVER

SI-SISTER!?

NO, PLEASE USE MY BICYCLE UNTIL YOURS IS FIXED.
NO, DON'T WORRY ABOUT THE BIKE.
I APOLOGIZE BECAUSE I WASN'T PAYING ATTENTION TO WHAT I WAS DOING I WILL FIX YOUR BIKE

ボボボボ
THIS IS INCREDIBLE. THE ENGINE AND THE FOOT ROTATION.
...
BUT THIS CAR IS SOMETHING ELSE. HOWEVER THIS IS SOMETHING TO CONFUSED. I THOUGHT THIS WAS TUNED BY A POPULAR TUNING SHOP, BUT.. IT'S DEFINITELY BEEN WORKED ON BY SOMEONE OTHER
EVEN HER HEEL & TOE TECHNIQUE REV MATCHES THE ENGINE PERFECTLY
ヤバ
ギュイ
ウオオオオ

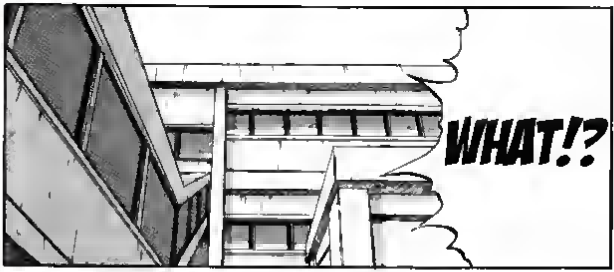
THANK YOU VERY MUCH
SO I GUESS YOU RIDE THE TOUGE A LOT
I CAN DEFINITELY UNDER-STAND THE FEELING
NOWADAYS, PEOPLE CALL ME STUFF LIKE "CINDERELLA," BUT I JUST LOVE RACING
IS IT THAT WEIRD TO SEE A WOMAN RIDING THE TOUGE?

YOU MUST NOT KNOW ABOUT "THE DARK KNIGHT OF THE NIGHT" AND HIS CAR
NO
N-!!
RIDING YOUR CAR AND YOUR BICYCLE IS ABOUT THE SAME RIGHT?
AND THE CAR I'VE BEEN RIDING THAT WITH
EATING LITTLE, SAVING ALL OF MY MONEY FOR GAS. I'VE KEPT RACING
I'VE BEEN RACING EVER SINCE I GOT MY LICENSE 6 YEARS AGO
WHAT DO YOU THINK IT'S CALLED?!

...
HUH?
R
OH NO THIS TRAFFIC LIGHT ALWAYS TAKES FOREVER
I'M LATE. I SHOULDN'T HAVE TAKEN HIROSHI TO SCHOOL.
THAT TEACHER WAS SAYING SOMETHING BACK THERE
I'VE REALLY GOT TO STOP WITH THE SELF-ABSORBED BEHAVIOR..

YOU'RE MIHARASHI TOUGE'S "CINDERELLA" AREN'T YOU?
HEY,
DON'T GET MAD LIKE THAT...
SO WHAT IF I AM?
SORRY, IF THAT'S WHAT YOU WERE THINKING UNFORTUNATELY, TODAY I JUST WANTED YOU TO HEAR SOMETHING
ELI? ARE YOU TRYING TO HIT ON ME WHILE YOU'RE DRIVING THAT TRUCK?
YOU LOOK PRETTY CONFIDENT..

THE KING STARTED RACING AGAIN


WHAT!?

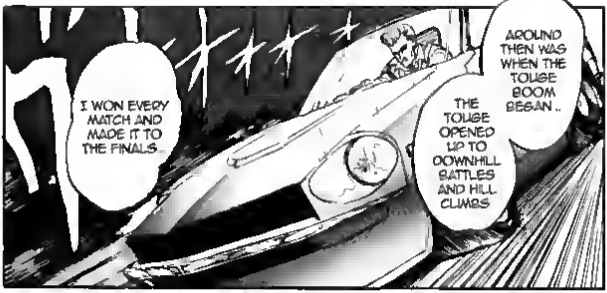
SH! SH!

LADY
PINK!?
MY SISTER'S WEARING PINK UNDER-WEAR TODAY
UFO
HM.
IF I STEAL THAT UNDER-WEAR FOR YOU THINK YOU COULD HELP MY TEST SCORE?
SORRY
YOU'RE TOO LOUD
DON'T DO ANYTHING SHADY
WHAT ARE YOU PLOTTING?
I CAN'T BREATHE

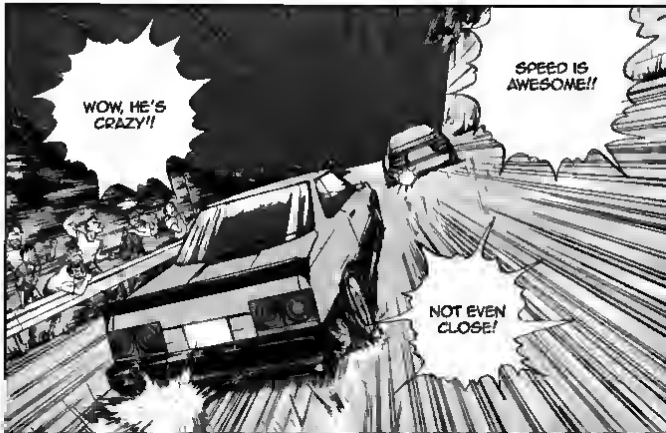
I'M NOT TELLING
WHY IS YOUR SISTER SO INTO DRIVING ON THE TOUGE?
WHAT?! I JUST THOUGHT YOU'D LIKE IT FOR A NIGHT YOU WERE ALONE!!
IF YOU DO SOMETHING LIKE THAT I HAVE NO CHOICE
HOW ABOUT NOW?
I DON'T KNOW THE DETAILS, BUT RECENTLY AMONGST THE TOUGE DRIVERS, IT IS SAID THAT THE LEGENDARY KING CAME BACK
NOT THAT ANY OF THEM COULD REALLY WIN AGAINST KING
IT'S GOTTEN THEM ALL FIRED UP LOOKING FOR A GOOD CHANCE TO TAKE HIM ON

OH YEAH, THAT KING DRIVES A CR-X.
MAYBE THAT IS WHY THEY'RE INTO KING.
NO, IT'S QUITE IMPORTANT FOR ALL THOSE WHO RIDE TO KEEP PURSUING WHAT'S FAST
CR-X!?
I NEVER THOUGHT I WOULD BE ABLE TO GO UP AGAINST KING AGAIN
WHEN I HEARD THAT KING CAME BACK, I WAS PRETTY HAPPY

I'LL NEVER FORGET
IT WAS 6 YEARS AGO
I, WAJIMA DAISUKE, WAS THE HEAD OF MY TEAM, AND MY NAME WAS WELL KNOWN.
I WAS COMPLETELY CONSUMED BY SPEED, BUT EVEN THAT CAME TO AN END AND I AWOKE TO RACING
I GOT A Z AND STARTED DRIVING AT THE TOUGE...


I WON EVERY MATCH AND MADE IT TO THE FINALS..
THE TOUGE OPENED UP TO DOWNHILL BATTLES AND HILL CLIMBS
AROUND THEN WAS WHEN THE TOUGE BOOM BEGAN..

I BEAT IT AND BECAME THE FASTEST!
IN THE FINALS, MY RIVAL WAS THE SKYLINE RS TURBO


WOW, HE'S CRAZY!!
SPEED IS AWESOME!!
NOT EVEN CLOSE!

WHA...
!!
HUH?
WHAT?!
THAT CAR IS ALL UP ON THAT Z!
NO WAY, I CAN'T BELIEVE IT!
NOSE TO TAIL!
COME GET SOME!!!

I'VE BEEN UTTERLY DEFEATED.
BUT KING NEVER PRESENTED HIMSELF AFTER THAT.
PEOPLE STARTED CALLING THAT GUY KING SINCE THEN...
YOU SEEM PRETTY CONFIDENT.
WELL, WHAT'S IN THE PAST IS ONLY A PAST INCIDENT, RIGHT?

I'LL RUIN YOUR PERFECT RECORD AS *CINDERELLA*!!!
THEN I SHALL BATTLE YOU BEFORE I GO UP AGAINST KING.
ANYTIME
I'M READY
OKAY!
START THE TEST!!!

YOU JUST WAIT, KING!
I'LL TAKE THE TITLE AS KING OF THE TOUGE!!
I DON'T WANNA BE AT SCHOOL...
THE ANSWER TO #3-

KING 1 END

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